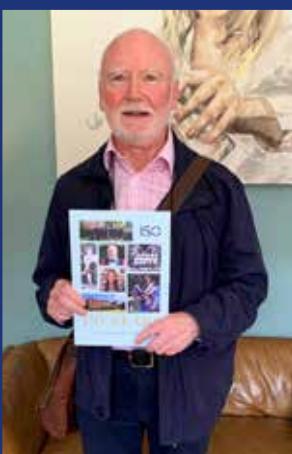
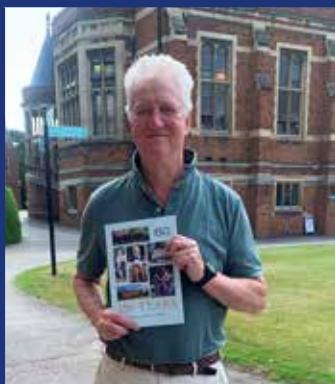
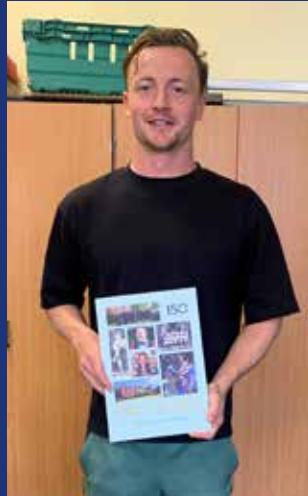


# OL NEWS

THE MAGAZINE FOR OLD LEYSIANS



AUTUMN 2025 | ISSUE 54



## 150 ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS CONTINUE

OL visitors from around  
the world share their  
memories

## AN UNEXPECTED JOURNEY

Spotlight on Hugh  
Anderson in Senegal

## FROM TYPEWRITERS TO TECH WIZARDRY

Behind the scenes from  
1979-2001 with Sue Thorp

**150**  
1875-2025  
ACHIEVING THE EXCEPTIONAL



## MESSAGE FROM The Head

### Dear Old Leysian

As the new Head of The Leys, it's my pleasure to share this latest issue of *OL News* with you.

From the moment I arrived, I've been struck by the warmth that radiates through every corner of the School. There's a deep-rooted respect among pupils and staff, and a genuine sense of encouragement that lifts everyone up. It's clear that lifelong friendships are being formed here - something I heard echoed by many of you at the Cambridge Drinks earlier this term. Your stories of

camaraderie and connection, often spanning decades, were both moving and inspiring.

This summer brought outstanding academic results, with our best ever GCSE results and second best A Level results - a testament to the dedication of our pupils and the unwavering support of our teaching staff. These achievements reflect the high standards and ambition that define The Leys, and I'm proud to be joining a community that celebrates excellence whilst nurturing kindness and curiosity.

I believe in the power of education to transform lives. My ethos centres on consistency, compassion, and collaboration - values I see reflected in abundance here at The Leys. I'm excited to build on the School's strong foundations and to work closely with the whole community to shape our shared future.

One of the great joys of this role is connecting with Old Leysians. I've already had the pleasure of

meeting many of you, including during my recent trip to Hong Kong, and I look forward to more opportunities ahead. Do take a look at the calendar of events on the back page, which now includes a new section for OL-organised gatherings - please keep sending these in!

I've also been delving into the 150 Commemorative Magazine, and it's been a delight to read your stories. The breadth of experience, generosity of spirit, and enduring affection for The Leys shine through on every page.

In this issue, we continue our 150 celebrations with a review of the April Reunion, courtesy of John Tanzer, alongside reminiscences, spotlight features, sporting triumphs, and visits from OLs - plus a few fond farewells.

Happy reading - and *χαίρετε!*

Warm wishes,  
**Clare Ives**  
Head

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Liz Walden &  
Karen Sears

### On the cover

Members of the  
Leysian community  
proudly display their  
150 Commemorative  
Magazines

*OL News* is printed with vegetable  
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# OL UPDATES

In its 150th year, The Leys has welcomed back many visitors from the Old Leysian community - from Cambridge to as far afield as the US, Singapore, Hong Kong, Japan and even Australia.



Max and family outside West House

### MAX WAN, WEST 1997–2001

Max visited from Hong Kong in July with his wife and two children as part of a three-week trip to Europe, and was given a tour of the School by Liz Walden. After The Leys, Max studied Maths and Economics at LSE, then started his career in investment banking. He has worked for Morgan Stanley and the Bank of America, among others, in London and Hong Kong.

### MING SHEN CHEO, EAST 2000–01

Ming visited from Singapore with family and friends in June, and particularly enjoyed a tour of East House from John Johnson. He writes: "My time at The Leys and East House greatly defined me as an individual, and were some of the best years of my life. Visiting with my family and child was deeply nostalgic and brought back many great memories! Thanks to Sarah, Liz and John for hosting me ever so well. And happy 150th birthday to the School!"

Ming (far left) with family and friends outside East House



### NORMAN SEOW, EAST 1975–80

Norman visited with his wife Kathleen in May and was shown around by Karen Sears. He was pleased to meet John Johnson for a tour of East House, to see how it had changed since he was there. He also enjoyed revisiting the Chemistry and Physics classrooms, subjects which inspired his career path, and expressed his gratitude to teachers at The Leys for their



Norman and Kathleen in East House  
dedication. Today Norman works in nuclear medicine technology, which he finds very rewarding.

### SEIKEI GAKUEN HIGH SCHOOL

In August we welcomed Seikei Gakuen High School pupils to visit the Chapel and view the Japanese stained-glass window. One of the founding fathers of their school, Shigezo Imamura, North A 1896–99, was one of the Old Leysians who contributed to the stained-glass window dedication "in reverent memory". The pupils also viewed *The Fortnightly*'s photo of Crown Prince Hirohito visiting The Leys in 1921 and the signature of Imamura (in Japanese characters) in the OLS minute book.



The wedding party in the beautiful grounds of historic Merton Hall

#### TOM DE GREY, WEST 2010-15

Congratulations to Tom and his bride Malina Mihalache, who were married on 26 July this summer at St. Peter's Church, Merton in Norfolk. Many Old Leysians were in attendance, including: the groom's mother, Jo de Grey, Granta 1985-87; his sisters Ella, Dale 2012-17 and Georgie, Dale 2015-20; uncles Jim and Charlie Haryott, East 1984-89 and 1990-95 respectively; and great uncle John Haryott, North B 1952-57. Harry Fenn and Jamie McDonald, both West 2010-15, were groomsmen. The reception was held at Merton Hall, the family home, and the couple honeymooned in Kenya and Zanzibar.



#### ANDREW ROSS-ADAMS, MOULTON/BISSEKER 2003-08

Andrew visited the UK from Australia in July, and made time to visit The Leys. He updated Liz Walden on recent developments.

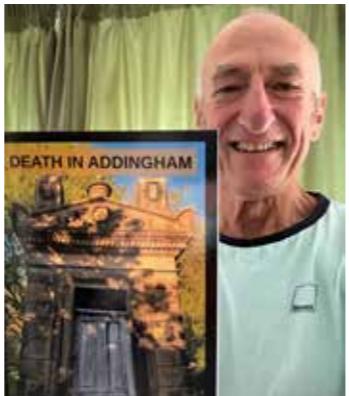
"I was thrilled to graduate with my PhD in Integrated Photonics after a long (and at times, tempestuous) journey! I am blessed to have been afforded this opportunity and to have shared this journey with such

Andrew with proud mum Nicola at his recent graduation ceremony

#### CHRIS COBLEY, SCHOOL 1962-67

Congratulations to Chris on the publication of his new book, *Death in Addingham*. Chris describes it as "an historical analysis of the most fascinating features of our three cemeteries here, revealing a scandal hidden for two hundred years. And guess what - it involves the Church!" Sounds intriguing ...

*Death in Addingham* is available from Amazon, priced £6.



A proud Chris with his debut book

supportive and inspirational friends and family. To quote Agent Dana Scully, "What can be imagined can be achieved, you must dare to dream, but there's no substitute for perseverance and hard work and teamwork because no one gets there alone." This journey has been the culmination of so many individual contributions: from the love, patience and wisdom of my parents, to my formative years at The Leys with teachers like Mr Harmsworth. It was a heartwarming experience to return to the School this summer and revisit so many fond memories. Many thanks to the formidable Liz Walden for making it happen!"

#### ANDY PITTMAMS, NORTH B 2000-05

After 16 years in London, OLS Committee member Andy Pittams is returning to Cambridge with his family. Formerly Commercial Director and Director of Property at the ICAEW based in the City, Andy has recently taken on a newly created role at the University of Cambridge as Commercial Director, University of Cambridge Press and Assessment.

He will be leading the market growth strategy of a cohesive corporate professional development offering and expanding the University of Cambridge Online, aiming to meet the growing global demand for high quality professional learning. This marks an exciting opportunity for the University to build a scalable, international professional training business. Please do reach out [Andrew.Pittams@Cambridge.org](mailto:Andrew.Pittams@Cambridge.org) if you would like to hear more.



Andy is looking forward to his next chapter back in Cambridge

#### ABI LAU, DALE 2018-20

Abi visited Cambridge this summer before starting her foundation course as a resident doctor at the John Radcliffe hospital in Oxford. She enjoyed a tour of the School and commented: "It felt incredible to visit The Leys after five years and step into my favourite place again - the Chemistry lab - bringing back so many fond memories."

Abi back in her element(s)



#### TOM COX, WEST 2011-16

Tom visited The Leys in August. He travelled from his home in Phoenix, Arizona where he works in financial consultancy, specialising in banking. Tom was keen to see the refurbishment in West House that had happened the year after he left. He commented that the common room felt much larger and was impressed by the new snooker table.



Tom in front of the Chapel

#### JOHN BELSEY, NORTH B 1963-68 AND NIGEL SCALES, NORTH B 1960-64

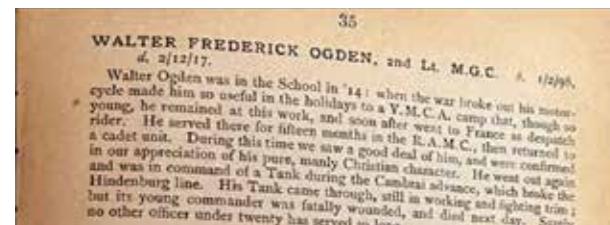


John and Nigel outside North B during their visit this summer

"Having arrived early from Surrey, our time was greatly enhanced by a tour of the School enthusiastically and spontaneously given by Kerry Chapman. It appears that The Leys has probably doubled in size both in terms of new buildings and number of pupils since our time in the 1960s. It became apparent that there was an air of confidence and positivity; that, in spite of the difficult economic climate and the tax changes, this is a school with a future. Let's hope that it continues to thrive, becoming ever better and more established in such a competitive market."

## HANNAH WILSON-PERRY

For Hannah, a silver wedding anniversary visit led to the discovery of a WWI family member.



Headmaster William Barber's tribute to 19-year-old Walter Ogden

"It was so lovely to be back in The Leys Chapel where Mark and I were married 25 years ago. Arriving at the same time of day with our two children, now 20 and 16, was very special. Even more so was when we were taken to the archives to see the silver cup donated by my father James Peter Wilson, North A 1958-63, for the 3 mile race which he first won back in 1963. As we traileled through the records of my father's relatives - both the Wilson and Ogden families, discovering my father set up the aeronautical society - we came across Walter Ogden (the youngest son of

James R Ogden, a Harrogate jeweller and one of the first people in over 3000 years to enter Tutankhamun's tomb in order to value the gold and jewellery found inside). Walter Ogden bravely gave his life in 1917 at the age of 19, killed in a tank in the battle of Cambrai. It was so moving to read the citation of the Headmaster and made us very proud as a current serving military family.

We are so grateful to the alumni and archive team for giving us such a wonderful morning and trip down memory lane."



Hannah and family in the Chapel, exactly 25 years since she and husband Mark were married there

## ANGUS SETCHELL, NORTH A 1973-78

Angus visited from Australia in July and was given a tour by Liz Walden. He enjoyed exploring the school archives and even spotted himself in a few photos from back in the day!



Angus perusing photos in the archive room

## HARRY TANGUY BROWN, BISSEKER 2019-24

Harry came back to The Leys in September before returning to the University of Bath for his second year studying Biomedical Sciences. He enjoyed visiting the Thomson Building again and seeing the inside of the Common Room that he had only viewed from the outside as a pupil.

Harry outside Bisseker House

50 YEARS ON:  
A RETURN TO THE LEYS

By Wayne Mok, East 1975-80

Wayne's recent visit to the School reawakened formative memories of his time at The Leys, prompting a heartfelt reflection on the experiences that helped shape him.

It was 1975 when I first arrived at The Leys, and I was thrilled to have the opportunity to visit again after 50 years. It was a pleasure to be welcomed and shown around by Karen Sears, who was incredibly knowledgeable about all the changes that have taken place over the decades.

Stepping onto the campus, it felt as though little time had passed. The magnificent old buildings still stand proudly, just as they did all those years ago. While there have been some new additions, I found I could still find my way around with ease, as if I had never left.

Our first stop was East House, where I lived for five years. I was surprised to see how completely the interior had been transformed. The large, stone-floored dormitories of my time have been replaced with cosy, carpeted study-bedrooms. Modern kitchenettes with all the latest amenities have also been added, making the house feel warm and welcoming.

Next to East House is the new music school and, further along, an impressive new theatre. Yet I was glad to see that many parts of the School remain unchanged: the Chemistry Lab, the Library, the Thomson Building, and the Dining Hall all look much as I remembered. Our final stop was the Chapel, with its beautiful stained-glass windows. I used to gaze at them for hours during services, and they remain as striking as ever.

When I arrived at The Leys as a young boy from Hong Kong, it was my first time away from home. The living conditions then were far more basic than they are now, and it was a challenge to adapt - not only to a new environment, but also to a new language and culture. But the School supported me. I was given extra English lessons and personal attention. The structured daily timetable helped me develop discipline and time management skills. The calm, beautiful surroundings provided space for reflection and study. Over time, I became more resilient and independent.

One particularly formative memory was when the chaplain invited a gay couple to speak to the Sixth Form. That act of openness and inclusion helped me come to terms with and accept my own sexuality.

Academically, The Leys prepared me well for university. I went on to earn a First in my bachelor's degree at Warwick University and was accepted into a master's programme at Stanford - though I ultimately chose not to attend, working in my family's stockbroking business before deciding to study art and forging a career as a painter. More importantly, my time at The Leys gave me the strength and resilience to face the challenges that life would bring.

Those years at The Leys were deeply formative, shaping the person I am today. The School left an indelible impression on me, and I feel incredibly fortunate to have been part of its community.



Wayne (right) with his partner Jorge Santana

# COMMON ROOM UPDATES

This year we welcome many new members and some returning staff to the Common Room. **Peter Hicks, CR 2020-23** (Head of Geography) returns as Head of Digital Learning, **Jo Schofield, CR 2014-21** (Head of PE) returns to the same role and **Olivia Bullen, Fen 2016-21**, joins the Games department as a Resident Sports Graduate. **Uta Dobson** joins the Senior Management Team as Assistant Head of Teaching and Learning. Three new Heads of Department started during the year: **Andrew Pang** (Psychology), **Helen Johnson** (Learning Support) and **Chris Foster** (Chemistry). In addition, we welcome **Andrew Tonge** (Geography), **Adriana Blond** (English), **Jane Burke** (Mathematics), **Isobel Cushing** (ESOL), **Matthew Williamson** (Biology), **Samantha Hopkins** (Music) and **Reece Robinson** as a Resident Sports Graduate.

It has also been lovely to welcome **Dr Clare Ives** as Head. She has thoroughly enjoyed attending all the events at the start of the year and immersing herself in life at

The Leys. **Dr Ives** can often be spotted around the School or popping into Houses to catch up with pupils and staff alike, reflecting her genuine enthusiasm for engaging with the whole community.

A few members of the Common Room moved on to pastures new this year, including **Justyna Sokolowska**, Head of Learning Support and the Resident Tutor in Fen House since 2022, who has moved to a school in Bermuda. **Christine Sheppard** joined the Learning Support team in 2018 and **Rebecca Howarth** has left the English department after five years at The Leys. **Sarah Pritchard** has moved to St Faith's as Head of Science after three years in the Physics department and **Alun Roberts**, a stalwart of the CCF, has retired this year. Common Room who left after only a short time at The Leys were **Lisa North** (Geography), **Jessica France** (Chemistry), **Oltita Waugh** (Physics), **Jane Sealy-Thompson** (Business Studies), **Frances McGirr** (Music) and **Jonty Oliver** (Games). We wish them all the very best.



## 81 YEARS OF DEDICATION: Thank you, Sirs

Countless Old Leysians will remember Common Room stalwarts **Geoff Howe, Rowland Adamson** and **Simon Leader** who, between them, can boast an impressive 81 years of teaching at The Leys. We wish them all the best as they head for pastures new.

### Geoff Howe, Common Room 1998-2025

"I arrived in 1998 as Head of Mathematics and have had the privilege of teaching most of my career in K3, the King's Building, forming one side of the stunning Upper Quad. For the last ten years, I have held the position of Deputy Head (Teaching and Learning), a post I often describe as my dream job, where I have helped to shape teaching and learning across the curriculum. The Leys has given me an amazing opportunity to live in Cambridge and to work alongside wonderful pupils and fellow colleagues, for which I am very grateful."

### Simon Leader, Common Room 2007-25

"The Leys has provided me with countless opportunities which have helped me become the teacher and the person I am, and I would like to thank all the pupils and colleagues, former and present, whose kindness and sense of common purpose have made my time here so memorable."

### Rowland 'DocA' Adamson, Common Room 1989-2025

"I still see myself as an educator, someone who believes that every space and every moment are a chance for learning and inspiration

to occur. No sanitised white classrooms for me. Teaching feels a bit like theatre: the lights go up, the adrenaline kicks in, and suddenly you're in the moment. There is no greater experience than knowing all eyes are on you, they are focussed, and you know you have them. They are eating out of the palm of your hand. So, when asked what I will do when I stop working, the answer is I stopped about 35 years ago, because doing something you enjoy

every single day is not work but pure pleasure – and so it has been in many different areas and roles of working with Leysians in and out of the classroom: chemistry, hockey, cricket, advising in tutorials, supporting medics, science trips to Canada and many other delights cement my view that every single space and moment provides a learning or inspirational opportunity. So, thank you, Leysians – it has been the greatest fun."



## HUGH ANDERSON, SCHOOL 2011-16

# AYDA From the unexpected to the unforgettable: my journey to leading a charity in Senegal

I first went to Senegal when I was 18, shortly after I said *χαιρέτε* to my time at The Leys. I spent 10 invaluable weeks volunteering, totally immersed in 'la vie Saint-Louisienne', sweating consistently and profusely, near the northern border with Mauritania – truly a world away from beautiful central Cambridge.

That's where I met El Hadj Ndiaye, arguably the most pivotal character in my story so far. He was my supervisor on several construction and renovation projects in chronically underfunded local schools, and though I experienced first-hand the ethical grey area that is 'voluntourism' I'll always be grateful to have worked alongside him.

El Hadj worked brutally hard, with expert precision, was always on time, and often did extra pro-bono work at the weekends: a true pillar of the community with fiery tenacity and a heart of gold.



### Ultimately, 10 weeks in Senegal showed me that:

- 1) Senegalese hospitality is the greatest in the world.
- 2) There are so many vulnerable children who need support.
- 3) Real fulfilment comes from pursuing meaningful purpose that benefits others.

It was inevitable, then, that I returned to Senegal in 2018, to launch my social enterprise Art and Soul of Africa – an online marketplace for authentic and traceable Senegalese art and apparel. El Hadj and I spent two weeks hunting for the freshest, most talented artisans in Saint Louis, Dakar and Mbour, ultimately buying 132 stunning canvases that we rolled up, packed into four big suitcases and I brought back to Blighty. I sold these paintings via my website, on campus at the University of Exeter (where I studied BSc Business Economics and French) and sent 100% of the profits back to support AYDA Senegal, El Hadj's charity.

The Alliance for Youth Development in Africa (AYDA) is a Senegalese non-profit organisation. It believes that insufficient support and education for vulnerable children is the root cause of later problems, such as under-developed communication skills, as well as a lack of confidence and thus motivation to continue school.

In Senegal, this is especially pertinent, due to the existence of talibé children – young boys abandoned by their parents who are usually dropped into one of the many privately run Darras, Quranic schools that serve as orphanages. In Saint-Louis alone there are over 10,000 talibés who are often sent out into the streets to beg, facing punishment from their marabout (Darra leader) if they don't bring back at least 500 francs (63p).

Making it happen: Hugh and El-Hadj get stuck in



Examples of local Senegalese artwork sold to raise funds for AYDA

### AYDA supports talibés and other vulnerable children in 3 main ways:

- 1) Running the AYDA centre: a safe space where 60+ students are taught French, maths, science, history and geography by volunteers. The centre also hosts weekly soup kitchens and first aid drop-in sessions, providing much needed basic health care.
- 2) Building toilets in local orphanages and providing shoes for children who don't have them.
- 3) Partnering with local public schools for renovation projects.

I've returned to Senegal annually since 2021, having taken up the role of AYDA Co-president alongside El Hadj. He manages daily operations and I take care of fundraising and finances. Together we've built eight toilets, renovated many schools and kept the AYDA centre running like a well-oiled machine, supporting thousands of children in the process. Our mission has never been to help everyone, but to have a significant impact in the community of the Darou district of Saint-Louis.

This year saw our greatest achievement yet: raising £11,706 for Project Lion, a large-scale renovation of the biggest local public school in Darou, Nalla Ndiaye. It was made even more special by welcoming two of my Old Leysian mates – Emma Davenport, Dale 2011-16 and Katie Curtis, Bisseker/Dale 2015-20, as well as Team GB hockey player Darcy Bourne, who wanted to volunteer. It was incredible to share this experience with such tough and selfless women.

Together as a team of 13 (staff, volunteers and local masons) we achieved a lot: working with cement under the harsh Senegalese sun to fill holes in the walls and floors; repainting dark and dilapidated classrooms; preparing and distributing meals for the children; supporting our first aid staff; supervising a children's bus trip to the beach; buying and distributing shoes. We also fitted in an overnight trip



L-R: Emma, Hugh, El-Hadj, Katie and another AYDA volunteer

to Dakar, witnessing its well-preserved and deeply moving history of the slave trade.

A core aspect of the experience has to be the total integration into the loving Senegalese culture. Emma, Katie and I became Kiné, Fama and Abdoulaye Fall – typical Senegalese names with El Hadj's family's surname. Though it took Katie a long time to master the phrase 'Mangi tudu Fama Fall' (my name is Fama Fall), we were always received with big smiles and absolute warmth, thanks to the core Senegalese value of "Teranga", meaning hospitality.

At mealtimes, we'd sit together on the floor around big metal dishes filled with meticulously prepared traditional dishes (including the national dish, Theiboudienne, featuring fresh fish and a variety of vegetables on a base of tomato and onion rice), together with the 15-20 other friends and family who join every night. We bonded in the evenings by heading to the beach for sunset, with some charcoal and a little metal kettle to boil up some sweet Ataya tea.

This year, we're focussing on maintaining and improving the AYDA centre, partnering with new schools and building more toilets in orphanages, whilst planning for our next project – opening a medical centre to administer more free medical consultations and first aid to even more children in Darou. If you feel able to support our crucial work in this amazing country, please feel free to donate whatever you can using the donation options here [www.artandsoulofafrica.com/art](http://www.artandsoulofafrica.com/art).

To find out more about AYDA, you can check out our website [www.aydaf.org/about-us](http://www.aydaf.org/about-us).

Finally, to my fellow OLs who've yet to find some sort of charitable cause to champion alongside work: please don't wait until you're retired; find something you're passionate about and get started!

# The Leys 150th campaign: will you help us close the gap?

When we launched The Leys' 150th Anniversary year back in January, the goal for our campaign seemed a long way away. Now in Autumn, I am thrilled to share that we are 77% of the way towards our goal of raising £150,000 for transformational bursaries.

## What are transformational bursaries?

These bursaries are for the most financially disadvantaged pupils, many of whom are on a bursary of 110% for a boarding place. The extra 10% covers things like trips, pocket money, travel home and more.

## Why are bursaries important for The Leys?



"Bursaries are truly transformational, both for the pupils who receive them and for the entire school community. For the individual, a bursary provides opportunities which raise aspiration, build skills and change the course of a life. When we

open our doors to talented young people from all backgrounds, we also enrich our community with diverse perspectives and lived experiences. Social diversity benefits everyone; it ensures our school is more inclusive, more attuned to the realities of the world beyond our gates, and that pupils are better able to value difference and model change. So, bursaries don't just transform individual lives: they shape the character and future of our whole school."

Dr Clare Ives, Head

## Is The Leys a good school for these pupils?

Our Gift of Education pupils are matched to us by our partner organisation, the Royal National Children's SpringBoard Foundation. As a social mobility charity, Royal SpringBoard partner with us and other independent schools to offer fully funded bursary places, allowing children the chance to thrive regardless of their background.

They work closely with community partners, schools and local authorities to identify children who will benefit from the unique opportunities that a boarding school education offers.



[www.theleys.net/bursaries](http://www.theleys.net/bursaries). Be sure to take a look at the video testimonials on our website from bursary recipients at The Leys.

"My bursary has impacted the way I see life and the way I approach challenges ... I feel like now I have much bigger goals, ambitions and missions that I want to fulfil ... I think the bursary made all the difference."

Jemimah, Dale 2023-25



## Will you help us reach our 150th target?

77%

£116,154 raised of £150,000 goal

We have just under £34,000 to go to reach our 150th campaign target of raising £150,000 for our bursary programme. Thanks to a generous match donor, every £ up to £150,000 is doubled\*\*, so if we reach our target we will have raised an incredible £300,000!

Will you help us by donating to invest in the future of young Leysians?



"I think giving to bursaries is really important ... it makes a real difference to individuals and what's going to happen to them in the future ... You don't have to give a lot, a little can make a big difference. A lot of people giving a little will make a very big difference."

Richard Anthony, West 1980-85



## How can you give?

Donate online at: [www.theleys.net/donate](http://www.theleys.net/donate).

Donate by bank transfer:

Account name: The Leys & St Faith's School Foundation

Sort code: 40-51-62

Account number: 51894714

Give a tax efficient gift from the USA: [www.bsuf.org](http://www.bsuf.org).

Send us a cheque:

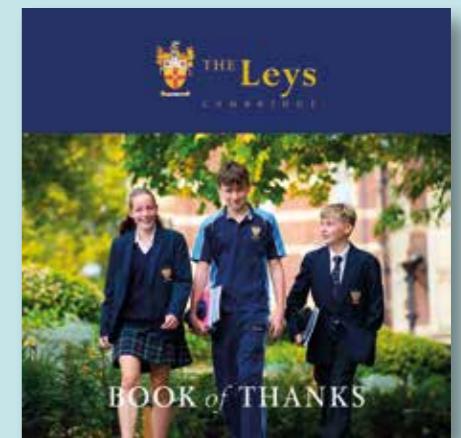
Please make it out to **The Leys and St Faith's School Foundation** and post to **The Development Office, The Leys School, Cambridge, CB2 7AD**

**Sarah Proud**

Director of Development

## BOOK OF THANKS

Be sure to read your Book of Thanks to see how donations have helped The Leys community to flourish over the last couple of years.



BOOK of THANKS



Above: Enjoying the archive display  
Below: Catching up over lunch in Great Hall

# Memories, Methodism and Massive Biscuits: Reflections on the 150th Reunion

From a review by John Tanzer, North B/Fen 1963-68

I first met Charlie Kidman at St Faith's in 1958 when we were both aged eight. We went on to The Leys together - starting in North B, then as the first group to enter the brand new Fen House, continuing with Neil White as Housemaster. We have kept in touch ever since, last meeting up for the 150th Anniversary Reunion on Sunday 27th April 2025.

Those of a modest mathematical bent will have immediately seized upon the fact that our combined ages amount to exactly 150. (The odd current pupil that we ran into may

have considered that to be our individual age, as we would have done in their place all those years ago.)

Yet that figure of 150 reflects the fact that The Leys is more a maturing than an old school; one that in mind has remained concurrent with a changing world and, as such, is youthful in its approach to challenge - a mindset that two literally old boys wearing Old Leysian ties of absurdly clashing colours cling to (despite on occasion undoubtedly being utterly deluded).

## MEMORIES, METHODISM AND MASSIVE BISCUITS

The day of the reunion was graced by sparkling late Spring weather. It is one thing to put an enormous amount of effort into an event and another to have one's prayers answered. The old gymnasium, which served to provide the initial meeting point, became positively tropical. An indication of not only the organisational care, but imagination, were the massive biscuits embossed with The Leys' crest. Adding to one's waistline is one thing: eating one's past a guilty pleasure of a different order. My mind considered whether Mr Grice and his brass band could still be heard in the room; a trumpet voluntary to bring the chatter to an end and to salute the Headmaster and Director of Development, our speakers.

Being shown around the School was a predictably bittersweet experience. It is hard to decide which side of that equation nostalgia falls. On the one hand, much is the same but different. On the other there is much that is new and to be admired. Fen House is now for girls, the presence of whom we could only dream about.

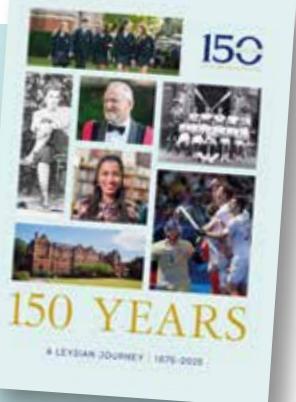
There has been a huge amount of building development over the years. Fortunately the quality of the facilities created is more important than the arguable quality of some of the architecture. That observation has to be set against the design of the new theatre where lunch was held. For my part I was truly impressed - as all of us were by the quality of the food laid on.

There is a certain irony that for me the most meaningful part of the visit was the service in the School Chapel, as I had been the boy of such little faith in that fine building that I used to refuse to bow my head. However, a bit of AI research tells me that the modern Methodist approach remains consistent with its roots: "Serve diverse

communities, welcoming students of all faiths and none, and focus on providing a holistic education that integrates academic excellence with spiritual and moral development". These principles, as echoed in the sermon that Sunday, and the visit as a whole lead me to conclude that The Leys continues to be a success in its holistic approach to education - an education for which Charlie and I remain truly appreciative.

### 150 Years: A Leysian Journey 1875-2025

We are very proud to announce the publication of our Commemorative Magazine, 150 Years: A Leysian Journey 1875-2025. This features dozens of Old Leysians from across the decades, along with Common Room nominated by the OL community, a treasure trove of Leysian history and more, all set against a timeline of UK, world and Leys events. Our thanks to John Harding for his invaluable contribution to this project, and to all Old Leysians who took part, either by providing a profile or nominating a teacher. You can access a digital copy of the publication on our website: [www.theleys.net/leys-community/old-leysians/](http://www.theleys.net/leys-community/old-leysians/).



Bottom left: The School's first intake of girls - sadly after John and Charlie's time;  
Below: 'Massive' biscuits, featuring the Leysian crest;  
Right: North A alumni gather on the steps of their old House;  
Bottom right: Rev. Simon Coleman, School Chaplain, addresses a packed Chapel



# OL SPORT



## The 2025 Tommy Dann Cup

A young Dann ready to assist with the Cup

In March this year, the fourth Tommy Dann Cup was held at Grange Road, raising £24,000 for the Jonny Wilkinson Charitable Foundation.

Over the past four years, the event has raised £75,000 for the Foundation. These funds go towards Jonny and his team's NSPiRED programme - a free six-week course in the UK for teachers, coaches, community leaders and others who are influential in the lives of young people. Thank you so much to all who attend, donate, volunteer, support and help make this possible. The day is a wonderful legacy for Tommy Dann.

This year's event got underway with an energetic 4-way U11s tournament running alongside the c.300-person lunch in the marquee. Ravi Mahendra conducted a brilliant and revealing Q&A with England stars Fraser Dingwall, Max Malins and Alex Coles before the Old Leysians and Old Perseans kicked off at 4pm.

The Old Boys' match was hard fought between familiar faces, with both sides trading blows in the first half. The Old Perseans pulled away in the second half and, despite a strong Old Leysians comeback and a close finish, the Old Perseans won the match.

36-27 and were presented with the Tommy Dann Cup by Rachel Dann. Following the match, our brilliant auctioneer, Dominic Hopkins-Powell, managed to squeeze nearly £5000 out of the lively crowd in the marquee before the wonderful band - Colonel Spanky's Love Ensemble - finished the night off in style.

We hope you all had a cracking day. Please reach out to us at [thetommydanncup@gmail.com](mailto:thetommydanncup@gmail.com) if you'd like to get in touch about the day - and we are of course always looking for volunteers! Photos from the day are also now up on the website, and can be viewed here: [www.tommydannmatch.com/gallery](http://www.tommydannmatch.com/gallery).

Thanks again to all who supported, and we very much hope to see as many of you as possible at next year's match on **Friday 3rd April** (Good Friday).

**Ed Fairey, Bisseker 2011-16**



## Making Waves: Parkhouse and crew bump their way to second on the river

This year's May Races delivered an unprecedented triumph. Peterhouse, led by former Master Bridget Kendall, fielded a powerhouse crew: five Cambridge Blue Boat victors and the Olympic gold-medal stoke from Paris,

joined by two others including Old Leysian Ed Parkhouse, West 2006-11. Their Men's First Boat achieved two bumps and two over-bumps, soaring eight places to second on the river - a feat never

before seen in Division 1. May this bring confidence and enthusiasm to our present school eight!

**With thanks to Rod Ashby-Johnson, School 1957-62**

# REMEMBER THE RONEO MACHINE?

By Sue Thorp, Support Staff 1979-2001



**From typewriters to tech wizardry, Sue helped lead the charge through decades of change at The Leys.**

I joined The Leys in January 1979 as Administrative Secretary, armed with an electric typewriter and a good supply of Roneo stencils. If you've never encountered a Roneo machine, count yourself lucky! The stencils were waxy sheets that we fed into the typewriter, errors corrected with a nail varnish-like substance, and then mounted onto the machine to churn out copies. Photocopying came later, and even then was incredibly time-consuming.

My early tasks included sending out prospectuses to parents, keeping index cards and paper files for prospective pupils, typing up form and house lists at the beginning of each term, typing up Common Entrance and Scholarship exam papers from Heads of Department, and ensuring prospective parents had the relevant information about these exams. If you wanted someone to do something, you'd write a note and pop it in their in-tray or pigeonhole - no emails back then!

Technology crept in slowly. I remember being allowed to use the first word processor in a room above the Bursary in the afternoons, which felt like a luxury at the time. Then came a computer system installed in the Bursary, with a cable link (underground, if I remember correctly) to the Headmaster's Office complex. A bespoke programme for schools had been developed by a firm in Glastonbury and I, together with several colleagues, travelled down there for a demonstration and training. It was a revelation: once a database was created, I could compile queries then produce form and house lists, as well as compiling and printing personal letters to be sent to parents and producing the labels for end of term mailings.

Over the years, I moved from Administrative Secretary to Admissions Secretary, and later Secretary to the Director of Studies, first with Stan Whitehead, Common Room 1957-92, then with Alastair Macgregor, CR 1977-2008 when he was appointed Registrar, then with Karen Dunster and Neil Hawkins, CR 2000-05 (Director of Studies). I also typed up each page of the tiny 'Blue Book' for the start of each academic year, which was printed by Crampton's in Sawston. This contained all the information needed for staff and pupils alike: a list of Governors, Teachers, Administrative and Bursary staff, together with the name, form and house of each pupil and the School rules. When Crampton's closed, the printing of the Blue Book was done in-house by some of the pupils, under the guidance of Harold Wiseman.

Eventually, the Bursary computer system was upgraded, we all moved to Microsoft Office and floppy disks became part of daily life. I set up an Access database for Admissions, which felt very advanced at the time. By the time I retired in 2001 (having gone part-time in the final years), we had a modern system in place. I'm proud to say that, thanks to all that I learned at The Leys, at 84 I use an iMac computer, iPad, and iPhone and can usually figure out what to do when something goes wrong!

Top left: Sue with one of the 'Blue Books' she typed up; Right: The late Stan Whitehead at his retirement party in 1992, surrounded by his former secretaries. Sue is front left





# All the Fun of the Regatta

A new commission by OL Henry Reichhold, Fen 1967-70, went on display at this summer's Royal Regatta at Henley. Photographed during the 2024 event, this richly detailed collage beautifully captures the event's vibrant sense of occasion. Henry says: "The montage set out with just one aim which was to capture all the fun of the Henley Royal Regatta. The general look of the work owes a lot to the Sgt Pepper era, with a nod to the 1920s when the crowds of spectators took to boats to watch the race." To see more of Henry's distinctive work visit [www.reichholdarts.com](http://www.reichholdarts.com).

## REMINISCENCES

### From Marginal Gains to Lasting Impact: Former Head Martin Priestley bids farewell to The Leys

It has been a great privilege to be part of the Leysian community these last 12 years. Initially, of course, I came with my then wife, Alison, as well as my beloved Twiglet, the blind-from-birth terrier (who would later get a specific mention in the Tatler Good Schools Guide!) Shortly after I moved to The Leys, Alison moved more or less permanently to our home in Norfolk and we largely lived apart in term time. Eventually we formally separated and divorced. This was of course a very painful time and the Leysian community was very supportive of me when I needed it most.

Against this personal backdrop, there was the central professional challenge of running a school of the size and reputation of The Leys. I never sought radically to change The Leys, but merely to improve it. "Performance by the aggregation of marginal gains" – Sir Dave Brailsford's phrase – was my mantra also. Record exam results, stellar inspection reports and accolades such as twice winning the Sunday Times Parent Power award of East Anglian Independent School of the Year – all these suggest that adopting Brailsford's approach bore some fruit, not least in attracting outstanding staff and pupils.

When Carole and I reconnected – having first been "an item" in our own sixth form days 40 years ago – she was living in Somerset after 25 years overseas. Eventually, she moved to Cambridge, and for the past five years we've lived here together as part of the Leysian community. Emma joined her mother (and The Leys) at the start of Year 10 and left this summer, four years later, with great A Level results and, equally importantly, great friendships. We mustn't forget Olive, our lovely fox red Lab, who often stood by the garden fence, happily receiving fuss from dog-loving Leysians passing to and from lessons!

Shortly after Carole arrived, the OL and Development Office unexpectedly became short-staffed. I mentioned to the then Development Director that, in extremis, Carole might consider helping out until someone new was recruited. That was over three years ago! Carole has thoroughly enjoyed working with the Development team, liaising with



Martin and Carole embracing their new chapter in beautiful Yorkshire

Old Leysians and helping organise events. This year, with the Sesquicentenary, has been especially busy, and I'm very proud of the events and initiatives we've delivered. Taking the whole school to a Service of Thanksgiving at King's College Chapel was truly unforgettable. Working in the Office helped Carole to feel a part of the Leysian community. We'll miss Cambridge itself too: a vibrant and civilised city that's been a joy to call home. Evensong at St John's followed by a glass of wine at Cambridge Wine Merchants, or a walk across Grantchester Meadow ending at the Blue Ball – both favourites of ours.

If I had to sum up The Leys in one word, it would be community. This is a truly special place, and I've often felt in awe of the remarkable pupils it's been our privilege to serve. I'm delighted to be handing over to such an inspirational successor in Dr Ives, and I wish her every success and happiness. Carole and I feel deeply fortunate to have been part of this unique community. For us, a move to the North York Moors awaits – and we're excited for our next chapter – but we will always be grateful for this one.

Χαίρετε!

# Include Their Future in Your Legacy

Leaving a gift in your will is one of the most impactful ways to ensure the future of Leysians to come.



From beautiful and functional buildings like Great Hall, to wider-curricular activities and life-changing bursaries, The Leys today has been made possible by 150 years of benefaction.

By choosing to leave a legacy to The Leys, you could create a brighter future for the children of tomorrow, and strengthen your Leysian family today.

To find out more about how you can leave a gift in your will, or to receive our legacy brochure, email Director of Development, Sarah Proud, on [slp@theleys.net](mailto:slp@theleys.net) or call her on +44 1223 508970 / +44 7586 529751.



“I have always been grateful for the breadth of education that The Leys gave to me. Legacies do not affect the donor’s lifestyle and it is also a good bargain! This is why I have included a gift to the School in my will to benefit future generations of Leysians.”

John Long, School 1938-42, who passed away in 2020 and whose gift helped to change the lives of bursary pupils at The Leys.



## Be a member of the 1875 Society

By pledging a gift to us in your will, you will become a member of the 1875 Society. Exclusively for legacy donors, this includes an invitation to a special event each year, as well as recognition in our annual impact report. So that we can enrol you in the society, please let us know if you have named us in your will.



“I have decided to leave a legacy to The Leys to ensure that other young people can benefit from the same opportunities my son had, receiving a bursary and experiencing a well-rounded education in a scholastic community known for its exceptional pastoral care.”

Zoe Brading is the mother of OL Duncan Casey, North A 1997-2002, and a member of the 1875 Society.

# IN MEMORIAM



To read the full versions of these tributes, please visit the School website [www.theleys.net/leys-community/old-leysians/in-memoriam/](http://www.theleys.net/leys-community/old-leysians/in-memoriam/). If you do not have access to the internet and would like a printed document, please contact the Development Office on 01223 508545.

### Geoffrey Bean, West 1947-52 & CR 1962-67, on 17 May 2025



Geoff in 1952 at The Leys

Geoff was the son of Alan Bean, West 1916-20, a member of the Methodist community in Sunderland and a Governor of The Leys for many years. Geoff was a keen rugby player. He went on to Jesus College, Cambridge to read Geography and, having taught briefly at Rydal, returned to The Leys as Head of Geography in 1962. In 1970 he was appointed as Headmaster of Prince Alfred College in Adelaide, a leading Methodist school in Australia. He had a distinguished career in education both in South Australia and, nationally, as a member of the Standing Committee of the Headmasters Conference of Australia.

Words by John Harding, CR 1968-2005

### Bertie Bellis, Headmaster 1975-86, on 1 October 2025

A full tribute will be included in the Spring 2026 issue of OL News. A memorial service will be held at The Leys, with details to follow in due course.

### Peter Chamberlain, CR 1964-97, on 29 May 2025

Peter ‘Chippy’ Chamberlain died at

home in Cambridge with his wife, Caroline, and daughters, Juliet and Rachel, close by. He was a much-loved husband, father and ‘Boppa’ to Ollie, Joe, Flo, Ned and Rose.

He grew up in Southampton, where his father was vicar of All Saints Church and his life-long support of The Saints football team began. At Marlborough College he was passionate about sport and regularly attended alumni events.

After school he served with the Royal Navy on HMS Cumberland, braving seasickness but relishing camaraderie. He studied Geography at the University of Cambridge, proudly achieving a rackets Blue.



In 1964 he began teaching at The Leys where he inspired pupils in Geography, squash, hockey and cricket. He married Caroline in 1969; with baby Juliet, they spent a year at Bishops School, Cape Town before returning to Cambridge with Peter as Housemaster of West House, where Rachel was born. The family spent 15 happy years there. Peter gave his

time 24/7 to his pupils who say he was kind, fair and a good listener. When he wasn’t teaching, he either played or watched sport. He was a lifetime member at Lords.

On retirement Peter continued to support young people’s education through GAP. He was active in the local community, volunteering at the Scott Polar Research Institute and library. He and Caroline travelled extensively, played golf, enjoyed U3A and spent lots of time with their family. We remember his calm grounding presence and miss him greatly.

Words by Peter’s daughter Juliet Morley

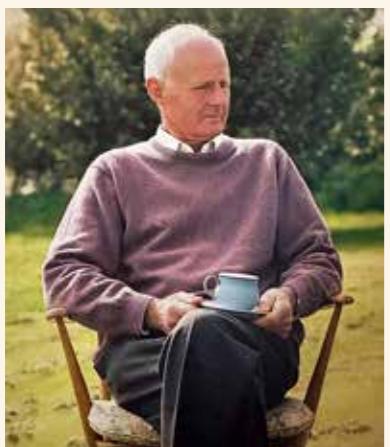
### Hal Ronald Connor (Ron), North A 1944-48, on 24 May 2025

### D Barrie Fleet, Common Room 1980-95, on 6 September 2025

A full tribute by John Harding, CR 1968-2005 and Caroline Wiedermann, CR 1982-2017 will be included in the Spring 2026 issue of OL News.

### William Rodney Freeman, East 1948-54, on 22 January 2025

Born on 1 July 1935 in Ipswich, Bill was evacuated during the war to Gloucestershire before thriving at The Leys, where he became a prefect, played rugby, cricket, and rowed



- but always kept quiet from his children the fact that he had to re-sit his A Levels!

In 1954, he began two years of National Service with the Royal Signals, training at Catterick and Aldershot, achieving the rank of 2nd Lieutenant before being posted to Kenya. He went on to study Economics and Law at Christ's College, Cambridge, where he organised the Poppy Day collections, raising a record £10,000 in 1959.

After qualifying as a Chartered Accountant, Bill worked for just two companies: Bull Motors in Ipswich, then The Dairy Trade Federation in London, where he was Finance Director for 26 years. He married Jenifer in 1962, and together they raised four children: Peter, Catherine, Crispin, Fen 1979-84 and Simon, Fen 1983-88.

In retirement Bill was ordained as a priest, serving as a non-stipendiary assistant curate for ten years. He was deeply involved in village life, securing over £200,000 in grants for the church, village hall and other projects. A lover of fresh air and exercise, he undertook long walking journeys across Europe, learning languages and discovering a talent for painting. His artwork and plant sales raised over £100,000 for charity, including Hope and Homes for Children, founded by a fellow Old Leysian. Bill was a kind, gentle, intelligent and very generous man,

deeply missed by his family and local community.

*Words by Catherine Seel,  
Bill's daughter*

**Peter Greenhalgh, School 1965-70,**  
on 3 March 2024

Pete was born in Great Baddow, Essex, the youngest of three siblings. His parents sent him to a boys' preparatory school in Tenbury Wells, Worcestershire, then to The Leys, where I got to know him well in 1968. We became good friends, more interested in adventures than academics. One memorable escapade was renting a motorboat on the Norfolk Broads at 16 - a rite of passage including first pub visits and reckless cruising.

Pete's passion for engineering blossomed at school, starting with bike repairs and evolving into building radio-controlled boats and rebuilding car engines.

He met Annette through a Christian youth group, and their bond grew during sponsored walks and Sunday teas in Great Shelford. After school, Pete explored various jobs before training as a teacher, though classroom life wasn't for him. He later helped me launch Raffles, Cambridge's first hamburger restaurant, and pursued his dream of bricklaying. I'll always cherish his friendship.

Pete and Annette built a life in Cambridge, then Shropshire, raising four lovely children: Sarah, Andrew, Chris and Rachael. His hobbies



flourished: model boats, model steam engines and gliders, shared with kindred spirits in local clubs. From around 2001, Pete was reunited with friends who had shared a dormitory in School House, and they met up yearly in each other's homes.

Pete faced illness with courage and determination, completing projects and starting new ones, such as installing underfloor heating in the family's 200-year-old farmhouse! Supported by loving family, friends, and excellent care, he spent his final days at home.

*Words by Chris Poulton, East 1966-70, and Annette Greenhalgh*

**Brian Hargreaves, West 1953-58,**  
on 14 June 2023

Brian was born on 4 June 1940 to an English father and Canadian mother. Wartime austerity influenced his early years in Pinner, Middlesex: sleeping in a Morrison Shelter, growing vegetables instead of flowers and keeping chickens. This may have inspired his later love of allotment gardening.



At eight, Brian went to Caldicott School, eventually becoming head chorister. Perhaps this influenced his later interest in music, especially opera.

He won a scholarship to The Leys, where he honed his tennis skills and became a Queen's Scout. Following in his father's footsteps, he studied French and German at Christ's College, Cambridge, making lifelong friendships. In addition to languages, Brian graduated in archaeology and captained the tennis team.

After a postgraduate placement at Rank Xerox, Brian joined S H Benson, a major London advertising agency famous for ads such as 'Go to work on an egg' and the Guinness campaign. In the 1990s, he co-founded an agency, producing campaigns for clients in the motor and aviation industries. This took him across Europe, Asia and America.

Brian was a keen collector: antique maps; Victorian porcelain; but especially Canadian stamps, inspired by his mother's heritage. This interest absorbed him for the rest of his life, visiting Canada and giving talks to philatelic societies.

In retirement, Brian embraced his love of opera, especially baroque, giving talks via Zoom during lockdown and hosting visiting musicians. He also traced our family going back many generations, during which I was of modest assistance, photographing the family factory and various residences in Hull.

*Words by John Hargreaves,  
West 1954-58*

**Christopher Lewis, West 1946-50,**  
on 11 June 2025

My brother Christopher John was born in Bedford on 9 April 1932. He enjoyed life in Bedford, but when we moved to Windermere in 1944 he believed he'd landed in heaven. Mountaineering became an abiding passion for him.



*Words by Anthony Lewis*

**Stan Whitehead, CR 1957-92,**  
on 23 June 2025

Stan was the last appointment of Gerald Humphrey, in 1957. He joined the History Department to teach the Tudor period at A Level. He had read History at The Queen's College, Oxford, where he had represented the University in the 2nd XV. When Derek Baker left in 1966, Stan took over the Department. He was already

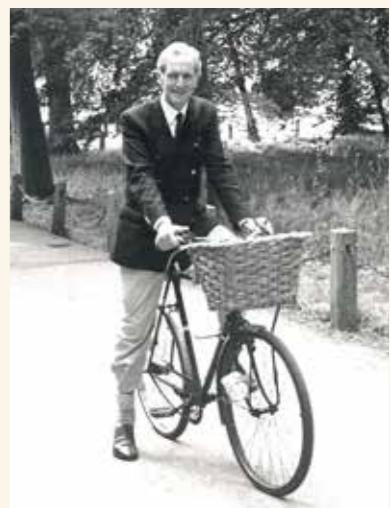
## IN MEMORIAM

On joining The Leys, Christopher travelled from Windermere to Cambridge by rail - quite a daunting prospect for a young boy. He thrived academically and at sport. After school he undertook National Service, serving as a Subaltern with the King's Liverpool Regiment. He spent much of his military career in the divided city of Berlin, where his fluent German came in useful.

Following National Service Christopher read Modern Languages at Trinity College, Cambridge, then, after a brief stint in the City with Hogg Robinson, retrained as a geologist. His perseverance led him to Kingston College of Technology, and ultimately to a distinguished career with BP. His geological expertise contributed to the discovery of the vast Prudhoe Bay oilfield in Alaska. At that time grizzly bears were a hazard, and he must have been one of few people who went to work by helicopter from John Wayne's yacht, which was hired by BP, carrying a rifle.

In retirement Christopher remained active, particularly in church affairs in Ross, California, where he managed the finances of the Bishop's Ranch for many years. He was known for his encyclopaedic knowledge of oil and gas, and for his kindness and compassion. He is fondly remembered by his devoted wife Peggy, daughter Heather, son-in-law Jonathan, son David, and grandsons Jaxon and Simon.

*Words by Anthony Lewis*



deeply involved in school activities, helping with the CCF and the Clapham Society in addition to sport.

During Alan Barker's sabbatical in Australia, the post of Deputy Head was created and Colin Wilcockson was appointed. Stan took over his role as Director of Studies and passed the History Department to me. Colin left in 1973 and Stan succeeded as Deputy Head, a post he held until his retirement in 1992. He had his own exchange to Australia in 1983-4.

It is difficult to understand now how demanding his job was, with no Senior Management team and a minimum of secretarial help, but Stan was the ideal ADC. Nothing was too much for him, no detail overlooked. His annual construction of the timetable was nothing short of a masterpiece, with no computer assistance, of course - and all immaculately hand-written. All the while he helped teaching in the History Department, never anything but a loyal colleague. I know of no colleague of mine at The Leys who was less concerned with self.

The late 1980s were choppy waters at the School so he stayed on for a couple of years to help John Barrett settle in. That John was able to turn the School round so quickly is due, in no small measure, to Stan. We shall not see his like again.

*Words by John Harding*

# OL EVENTS 2025–26



Most events can be booked online at  
[www.theleys.net/leys-community/events/](http://www.theleys.net/leys-community/events/)

## THURSDAY 16 OCTOBER 2025

### OL Drinks in Munich

Meet and greet with Kea Haw, International Admissions Officer

## SATURDAY 25 OCTOBER 2025

### 150 Anniversary Hong Kong Celebrations

18:00-20:00 Shangri-La Hotel, Hong Kong

## THURSDAY 6 NOVEMBER 2025

### OLS London Drinks

18:30-20:30 One Moorgate Place,  
London EC2R 6EA

## FRIDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2025

### Festive Celebration featuring The Leys Chapel Choir

18:30-20:00 Wesley's Chapel, 49 City Road,  
London EC1Y 1AU

## MONDAY 1 DECEMBER 2025

### OLS Annual General Meeting

18:00-19:00 online – invitations will be emailed

## SATURDAY 6 DECEMBER 2025

### OLS Annual Dinner

18:30-22:30 St John's College,  
Cambridge CB2 1TP

## TUESDAY 9 DECEMBER 2025

### OL Drinks in Tokyo – venue TBC

Meet and greet with Kea Haw

## SUNDAY 10 MAY 2026

### OL Reunion – for OLs who joined the School 1990–99

10:00-16:00 The Leys

OL News is produced twice a year. If you would like to contribute an update or article for a future edition, please email the editorial team. The deadline for submissions for the next issue is 31 January 2026.

## The Old Leysian Benevolent Fund

The Fund exists to support Old Leysians and their dependents if they run into difficulties through accident, illness, redundancy, or other unforeseen hardships. Anyone experiencing such hardship, or who knows of someone who may qualify to receive help from the Fund, should contact:

The Secretary, Lucy Sales (Moulton/Dale 2000-07)

Email: [l.sales@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:l.sales@hotmail.co.uk)

Any request for help is always dealt with confidentially and with discretion. If you would like to help the Fund in its ongoing work, please contact the Secretary. Any donation would be a tremendous help.

## OLS Committee 2025

### Officers

President – Stephen Ludlow,  
North B 1980-85 (Wesley's  
Chapel and Leysian Mission)

Vice President – Karen Sears  
(formerly Cox), Common Room  
2009-present

Chairman – Jo de Grey,  
Granta 1985-87

Secretary – Liz Walden

For a full listing of Officers and Committee Members, please visit [www.theleys.net/leys-community/old-leysians/](http://www.theleys.net/leys-community/old-leysians/).

## Alumni Organised Events

### Assynt Reunion 2026

10-19 April: Inchnadamph  
Explorers Lodge, Assynt,  
IV27 4HL

People are welcome to join us for a few days or as long as they wish within these dates. Further details are available from Simon James at [sjjames174@gmail.com](mailto:sjjames174@gmail.com) or leave a voicemail, text or WhatsApp message on 07748 134874.

### The Tommy Dann Cup 2026

Friday 3 April: Cambridge  
University Rugby Club, Grange  
Road, Cambridge CB3 9BN  
from 12:00.

### A message from Peter Symes: Anyone for Squash ...?

I was at The Leys from 1959-63 and there I learnt to play squash at the tender age of 14. 65 years later I am still playing. If any OLs of a similar age or slightly younger living in Sussex or London would like to form a small circle of squash players for friendly games and drinks afterwards, please email me on [petersymes@btopenworld.com](mailto:petersymes@btopenworld.com) or call/message me on 07554 012187.

### Are you organising an event for fellow Old Leysians?

If so, let us know by emailing the editorial team at [development@theleys.net](mailto:development@theleys.net) for inclusion here.

If you wish to receive the digital version of OL News, please email [development@theleys.net](mailto:development@theleys.net) to let us know.



The Leys, Cambridge CB2 7AD  
[www.theleys.net](http://www.theleys.net)

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